

Read to me

Volunteers help area students learn to read

Andrea King
Staff Writer

The Visteon Corp. and Tyler Elementary School in Belleville have partnered to succeed in reading.

The Read to Succeed program, which began recently, will bring 47 Visteon volunteers to Tyler Elementary School every other week to help students develop their reading skills. Students in the first through fifth grade will be teamed up with a volunteer who will help them read and write from a book of their choice, according to Sally Coughlin, reading recovery teacher at Tyler Elementary.

"So many of our children are without people at home that can listen to them read, so we want this to be a very positive experience for both the child and the

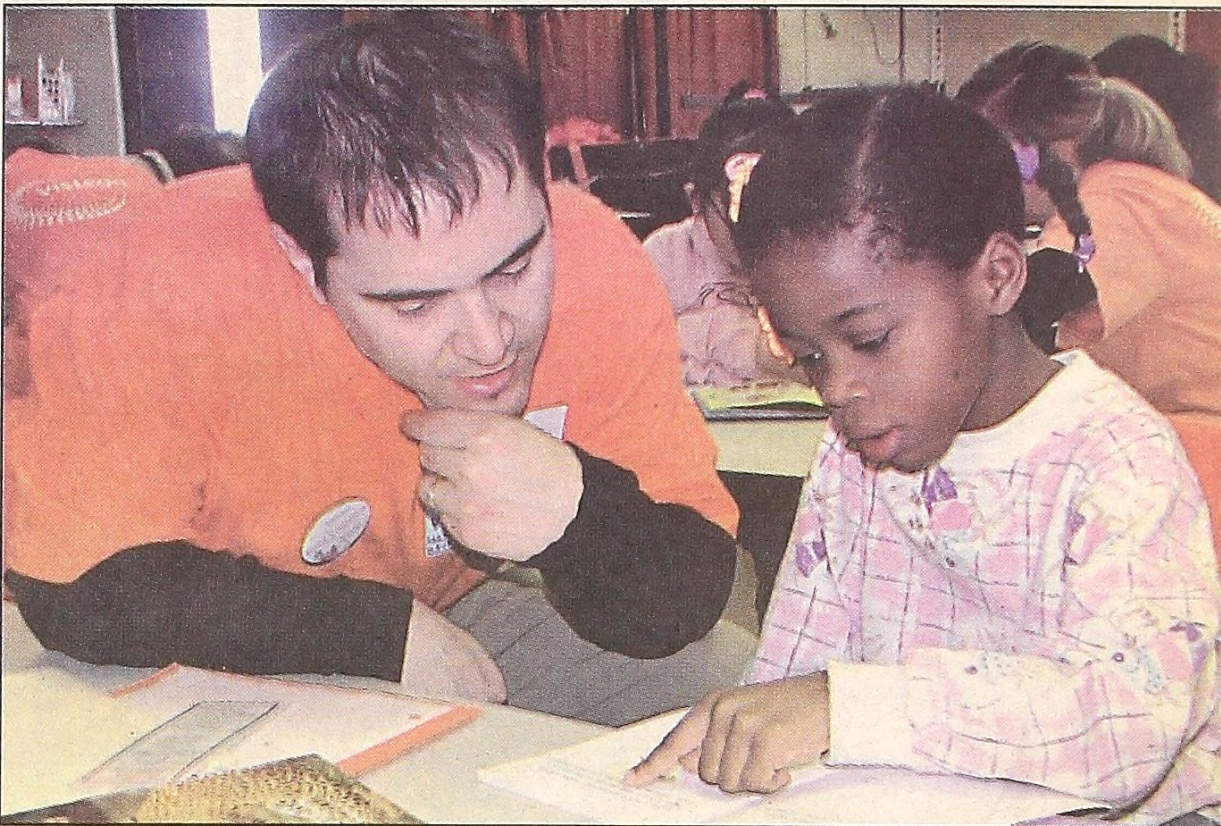
volunteers," she said. "The volunteer's job is to come in, enjoy the students and work together. We really are thrilled that Visteon chose us to pilot this program."

The volunteer program is especially important in this time of financial cutbacks, said Coughlin.

"The schools just don't have as much support as we used to, so to have corporations come in and help is just a win/win situation," she said.

Melinda Czarnecki, corporate communication specialist for Visteon, couldn't agree more.

"Visteon considers it important to invest in the city where we live and work in, so the Read to Succeed program is definitely one of the ways we can do that," she said. "Our priority in the program is to give the students the opportunity to practice and develop reading skills."



Tyler Elementary School student Kari Perkins reads to Visteon employee Kevin Mitchell as part of the "Read to Succeed" program.

The program will continue until April. If it's successful, it could be expanded into other schools around the area, said Coughlin.

"After that we'll re-evaluate the program to decide what works,

but I think that the volunteers are going to love it because we have the most wonderful children here at Tyler," she said.

"This program will help the students with self-confidence, give them more practice in reading

and writing text, and give them the opportunity to meet someone from the business community," Coughlin added. "The more we do that for a child, the more they can learn, and that's our job as teachers."

Van Buren Township employees named to state recreation association

Both Bruce Ross, director of recreation and facilities for Van Buren Township, and Jennifer Morris, recreation manager for Van Buren Township, were recently elected to positions with the Michigan Recreation and

Park Association.

Ross, who was elected vice-president on the board of directors, will be in charge of the annual Conference Committee Chair and Personnel Committee and Sponsorship Fund

Development. Morris was elected Southwest Metropolitan Recreational Executive Group president.

Founded in 1935, the Michigan Recreation and Park Association is a non-profit,

statewide association that creates a community through people, parks and programs, and represents the public and private sectors of the recreation and park profession throughout Michigan. It is comprised of near-

ly 2,000 members of all backgrounds from a diversity of professions including tourism, recreation, parks, therapeutics, senior citizens, citizen advocates, resorts, arts, athletics, education, business and industry.

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City renews Taylor Police firearms contract

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

The Romulus City Council voted to renew the Romulus Police Department contract with the Taylor Police Department to continue using that city's firing range.

The outdoor gun range, located at 16300 Rancho Road in Taylor, is used by several law

enforcement agencies for professional training and ongoing qualification. State law requires police officers to maintain firearms licenses by "re-qualifying" at a certified range twice per year. The city will also have access to a smaller, indoor gun range located at 25555 Northline Road.

Councilman William Crova said the city has a long-standing relationship with the facility, and

that outsourcing this sort of service makes sense fiscally.

"To try to put something like this in our city is not feasible," he said. "It's not like we pay to use the facility every day. We use it only for certain times to certify our officers. It's more cost effective to share some services like this one. We think the cost is a reasonable one for use of the facility."

Romulus will pay Taylor \$200 per day for use of the facility, according to paperwork submitted by the police department. It is not clear how many times the 40-officer Romulus Police Department uses the facility. Public Safety Director Charles Kirby did not return calls seeking comment.

The contract is retroactive to Jan. 1. The contract will end on Dec. 31, 2005.

Romulus briefs

Recreation center hearing scheduled

Romulus officials will host a Town Hall Meeting next Thursday, to discuss future plans for the soon-to-be-constructed city recreation center. During the meeting residents and interested parties can speak with city officials about the project and ask questions.

Presentations will be given by Mayor Alan Lambert and city administrators about the center. The meeting will take place from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Whistle Stop Diner, 36542 Goddard, in downtown Romulus. For more information, call (734) 942-7571.

Scholarship applicants sought

The Romulus Mayor's Substance Abuse Task Force is looking for a few good men, or women, to apply for six available scholarships the group has set aside for aspiring college students.

Applicants with plans to attend any post-secondary institution are invited to apply, said Kathleen Trent, a spokesperson for the city. Three "community service" awards, and three "vocational education" awards will be presented. Four of the scholarships total \$1,000, and the other two are \$500. Applicants can be either a senior in high school, a student in an alternative educational program or an adult who is attending a post-secondary institution.

The money can be used for tuition, fees, books or materials directly related to course requirements. One measure of the applicant's uniqueness will be the grades received in classes directly related to their chosen vocation. Overall grade point average (G.P.A.) will not be a determining factor for the award. However, financial need will be considered.

Applications for the scholarships can be picked up at Mayor Alan Lambert's office at 11111 South Wayne Road. Completed applications must be returned to the mayor's office by April 29. For more information, call (734) 942-7500.

Cable rates increased

Comcast Cable announced it would raise rates for people living in several Wayne County communities.

Effective April 2005, limited basic service will increase from \$10 to \$11; standard basic service will increase from \$29.00 to \$31.99; preferred basic will increase from \$42.99 to \$45.99; digital plus service will increase from \$58.94 to \$61.94; digital silver service \$71.99 to \$75.99; digital gold service from \$81.99 to \$85.99 and digital platinum from \$91.99 to \$96.99.



Generous efforts

When two sixth-grade students at Romulus Elementary School learned more about the devastating effects the Tsunami has on Asia in December, they knew they wanted to do something to help. Jessica Brown (far left) and Brittani Lincoln (far right) hold a check for \$654, which they raised by asking fellow students for donations. The money will benefit the Salvation Army Tsunami Relief Fund to help people living in the city of Galle in Sri Lanka. Principal Lynn Mossosian said the school is "proud of Jessica and Brittani for the leadership with this worthy service to our world community." Also pictured here are (first row) Gary Sadler and Denish Spann, and (second row) Jasmine Kozmalski, Cali Banks, Dana Robinson and faculty advisor Margie McAnally.

Barden - Longtime resident hope to expand city business base

FROM PAGE 1

County Plus Care, a provider of health insurance for low-income county residents; the board of the Self-Help Program, a builder of housing for needy residents; and as a mentor at Cory Elementary School.

In Romulus, all seven board members, the mayor and the city clerk are up for election in November. All council members

are elected at-large.

Barden sought an open seat on the Lorain, Ohio City Council in 1972, when he was 24 years old. The incumbent who occupied the seat for 14 years defeated him by a margin of only 12 votes.

Expanding the city business base while keeping taxes in check is an integral part of Barden's platform, he said.

"I'm against anything that

would raise taxes," he said. "I think we have a lot of development going on here; but I think we can still have more. I also will do everything I can to make sure Romulus residents have first crack at any jobs created by the companies that come here. That's really important to me."

Fighting Birmingham-based Environmental Disposal Systems' plan for an injection waste well is also a priority, he said.

"I'm against any waste coming into Romulus, and I'll really fight for that," he said.

Barden was born in Inkster and was raised in that city with his 12 brothers and sisters. He graduated from Inkster High School, and earned a Business Administration Degree from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo.

The general election will take place Nov. 1.

Abatement - 12-year request approval unlikely, compromise expected

FROM PAGE 1

ing the hearing," he said. "But it's been a long time since we gave an abatement for 12 years. We have a strict guideline we use to determine the number of years a company can get an abatement, and there's no reason to believe we wouldn't use the same formula this time."

The system for granting an abatement - and determining the

number of years allowed - is dependent on several factors, including the number of years in the community, the amount of dollars generated by the expansion and the number of jobs provided, Prybyla said. That information is then measured against set time intervals that determine the number of years the city will provide the tax break.

The last time the city granted a 12-year abatement was in 1998,

when General Motors asked for one. But even if the abatement is granted for only six years, it will be beneficial to the company and its workers, said Mayor Alan Lambert.

"If it's granted for six years, than that's another six years the company will be in this community, and another six years 89 people will have a job," he said. "I think everything should be done to get the abatement through. There's a lot of communities that would love

to have them, and they could give them the abatement."

If approved for six years, the company could save about \$246,000 in tax dollars during that period, according to estimates by City Assessor Julie Albert.

Prybyla said it's unlikely that the council would vote down offering any abatement to the company.

"Aztec Manufacturing has been a good corporate neighbor for us," he said. "And that's part of it, too."

Fees - Cost of police reports, finger printing, inspections are increased

FROM PAGE 1

have been raised in the city, Lambert said. The city has retained the policy of providing all of the services free of charge to

residents that are more than 65 years old.

Councilman Mike Prybyla said that only a small number of fees where raised, and that that it would not generate any extra rev-

enue for the city.

"This is something that would not amount to very much over the year for us," he said.

"It was designed so we can break even. We left most of the

fees at their current rate. It won't do anything to help out a shortage for the city. Every city is having financial troubles right now, but this isn't the kind of thing that could make things better."

Schools - District hopes to save \$1.5 million with early retirement plan

FROM PAGE 1

said no layoffs are expected.

"We're going to do everything

we can to avoid layoffs," he said. "We haven't had to lay anyone off so far - we plan to do this by attrition. There are a number of things that could happen - we

could replace people at a lower cost, or not replace them."

Right now, it's unclear how many employees are planning to take advantage of the plan.

"We'll know more in April," Kruse said.

District figures indicate that about 4,400 students attend Romulus Community Schools.

OPINION

A real 'community'

A packed room of Northville residents saw in action Monday night something that most community officials already knew: the community sticks together.

Representatives from the Township Board of Trustees, the planning commission, the City of Northville Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and the school board were all on hand to listen to a proposal from Real Estate Interests (REI), Inc. for the former Northville Psychiatric Hospital site.

The development is one that geographically takes place in Northville Township; in other municipalities it would be approached as one that affected the township and the township alone. Not in Northville, though, where members of both township boards expressed concerns and articulated a willingness to protect two vital aspects of the community: the school district and the downtown business district. It's certainly important because the 415-acre development has the potential to adversely affect them both.

At a time when many community officials are talking about cooperation across boundaries, it's good to see such specific examples of that in action. The city and the township have long been ahead of that trend — they share many services, including the recently-implemented joint dispatch department, with each other, and facilities with the schools, too. This is another example of how concern over their neighbors will eventually benefit the entire community.

With a project as large and far-reaching as this one on the table, it's encouraging to see that everyone is on the same page.

A worthwhile expense

Soon, Wayne City Council members will vote on whether or not to take part in an Urban Design Studio with students and faculty from Andrews University, a small college on the other side of the state.

The concept itself is an interesting one. It essentially invites a team of post-graduate college students into the community for an intensive series of design charrettes. They spend a week in the town, walking neighborhoods, meeting with business and elected officials, and the public and then come up with ideas on how to best preserve and revitalize the community. It's basically a semester-long project for the class, designed to give them real-world architectural experience and bolster their resumes. It will cost the city between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

The concept of revitalization is hardly a new one here in Wayne, and you could make the argument that the city doesn't necessarily need any help. City officials have been very proactive in attempts to spark development and redevelopment in the town: they've gradually sold off prominent pieces of land, they have programs in place to entice business and property owners to keep up and improve their properties, they've invested in the community. They have a vision, too, and it's progressing.

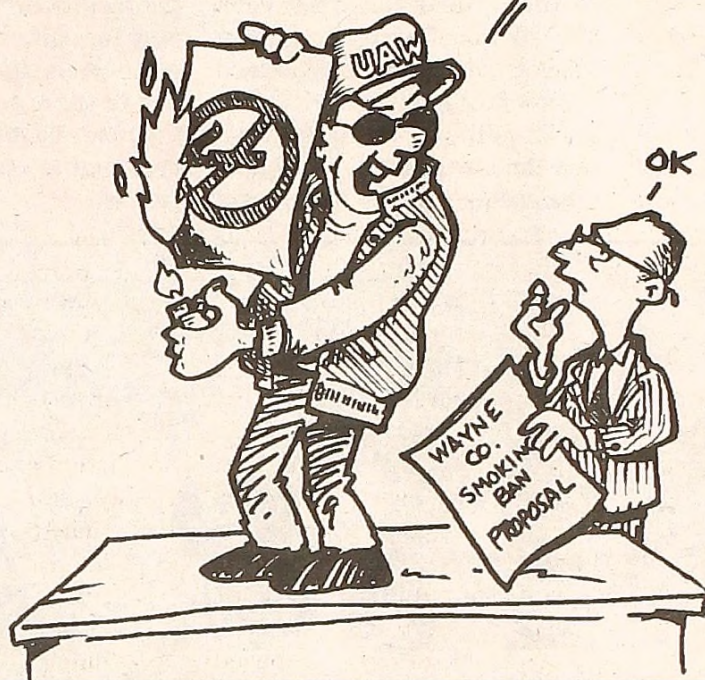
Even so, we think participating in the Urban Design Studio would be money well spent, particularly if those funds come from the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), as they most likely would. This is the kind of thing that DDAs were designed for, after all, and the project would be a bargain at twice the price.

The funding probably won't be the only new request from the DDA this year — members of the Wayne 2020 Committee will ask for DDA funds to bring public art to the downtown area in the form of outdoor murals — but that shouldn't hinder this project.

This is a situation where the vote to approve or reject the project could tell more about the future of the city than the actual outcome of

See **Study**, page 5

MY GROUP WANTS TO SHED SOME LIGHT ON THE SITUATION!!



Where do my rights begin?

I know plenty of smokers, and I have an uneasy alliance with them. They don't blow their putrid clouds at me, and I don't rip the nasty things out of their mouths and stomp on them. To each his or her own, right? Even so, I get irritated when they complain about the constantly increasing cost of cigarettes, the increasing taxes on them and the attempt to restrict where and when they can partake of their habit.

The latest situation came when Wayne County tried to ban smoking in public places other than bars, bowling alleys, bingo halls and so on. It looked to be a sure thing before the United Auto Workers (UAW) sent letters to the commission implying they would withdraw their support if the ban were approved.

That's bad enough to begin with, a blatant example of a special interest group flexing its muscle and politicians caving in.

They're usually talking about their rights and too much government and so on and, while I am as protective of someone's rights

as the next guy — if not more so — this time I've got to say, what about mine?

I frequently feel like my rights to live in a smoke-free environment are constantly threatened, if not ignored.

I frequently feel like my rights to live in a smoke-free environment are constantly threatened, if not ignored.

This is an issue that's been under my skin for a while, now, I guess. Earlier this year I took my son, Henry, to the last great sledding hill in Wayne. It's behind Wayne Memorial High School, a swooping, two-tiered hill that leads down to the baseball and softball fields. We ride bikes down the hill during warmer months. That day, though, we

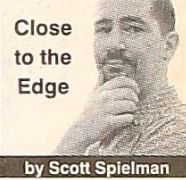
were there for the sledding action, like many other residents.

Parents pushed their youngsters down the hill, sometimes hopping into their sleds behind them. The children laughed, the parents talked, it was a nice, hometown scene — at least until I noticed all the crumpled up empty cigarette boxes littering the area.

You can't go anywhere without seeing some of this trash. Empty boxes in the street, on sidewalks; half-smoked stubs litter gutters everywhere dirty up roadways and more. I suppose I shouldn't get so irritated at seeing it on school grounds, right?

It's probably a useless fight. These things will no doubt continue.

I just hope, as smokers complain that they don't appreciate that the places where they can take a puff dwindle, that they realize the rest of us don't appreciate them slowly turning our world into a gigantic ashtray.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Letters

Veterinarian's office staff explains euthanasia policy

To the editor:

We feel compelled to respond to a letter recently written by Alice Denstedt about her cat, Baby, which was euthanized in our office last month. This is the second time that Mrs. Denstedt has unfairly maligned us, and we would like to present the facts as they actually occurred.

When Mrs. Denstedt called our office to make an appointment to bring her cat in to be put to sleep, a staff member asked on two occasions if she wanted to be present. She said that she did not. She then was quoted a fee for this service based on the owner not being present for the procedure.

When the Denstedts arrived with their cat, Mr. Denstedt decided that he wanted to be present when his cat was put to sleep. When our receptionist told him that there would be an additional fee to stay with their pet, he became irate at the additional fee and decided not to stay with his cat after all. When a client elects to stay with her or her pet for euthanasia, an extra fee is charged because an exam room is used for the procedure and because the doctor and veterinary technician spend time with the client.

Mrs. Denstedt claims that her cat was crying out. The fact of the matter is that this unfortunate cat was far too ill to be able to cry out, and in fact neither moved nor uttered a sound during the euthanasia procedure. Furthermore, they could not have

heard any cries from their cat because Mrs. Denstedt, by her own choice, was sitting in her vehicle and Mr. Denstedt was outside our office smoking a cigarette during the procedure. When Mr. Denstedt came back in to view Baby's remains, several staff members expressed their sympathy, compassion, and sorrow for the loss of their pet. He did apologize to our staff more making an issue over the fees.

Veterinarians as a group enter this profession because they love animals. The employees who work in our hospital all work there for the same reason. We all have pets of our own, and we love them just as our clients love theirs. Euthanasia is always an emotional experience for everyone involved, and we fully under-

See **Letters**, page 5

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Moving on

Hospital employee retires after 38 years of service

Scott Spielman
Editor

When Ceilia Burcham first learned of a job opening at Oakwood Annapolis Hospital, she didn't want to take it.

She had just moved back to Michigan and was working in a nursing home, she said, in a job she liked.

"I didn't want to leave," she said. "I wanted to stay where I was at."

She reconsidered, though, and took the job and hasn't looked back since. Now, more than 38 years later, she's ready to retire to spend more time with her family. She said it wasn't an easy decision, either.

"I'm with the people here more than my family," she said. "My family is here."

Most of them don't know her as Ceilia, though, but by her nickname, Tooty, which even she isn't sure how she earned. Her co-workers know her as a dedicated hard-worker in the physical therapy department, where she has helped thousands of people

reclaim their lives through the years.

"We're going to miss her tremendously," said Pat Bernier, director of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the hospital, which is located on Annapolis Street in Wayne. "She's one of

those people that can't sit still. You can tell her something needs to be done next month and she'll have it done 10 minutes later."

Burcham spent most of her life in Wayne and remembers a time when Wayne County housed cattle nearby, in what is now Attwood Park. The schools she attended as a youngster have since been torn down. The creek where she used to fish for pollywogs is now just a memory, too.

"I learned to drive on these old dirt roads," she said.

Her only time away from the community was when she spent about seven years in California, after she graduated high school and ran off with her sweetheart.

"I called it running away," Burcham said. "I was 18 and I

*She can't be replaced.
We're going to miss her.*

Pat Bernier



Ceilia 'Tooty' Burcham (left) will retire from Oakwood Annapolis Hospital this week after 38 years in the physical therapy department. Her supervisor Pat Bernier (right) said Tooty does so much extra work, she'll be irreplaceable.

had just graduated and I had strict parents."

When she returned to Michigan, she moved into her childhood home and has since raised a daughter on her own.

She's been a regular face at the Physical Therapy Department at the hospital, too, and has earned accolades for going above and beyond her duties there, according to Bernier. She remembers a time when Burcham tried to coax a stroke survivor into regaining his strength - she told him if he ate his breakfast she'd bring in his dog for a visit. Fifteen minutes later, the plate was cleared and soon after that, Burcham had

reunited the man with his pet, which he hadn't seen in a while.

"He just went wild," Burcham said. "That little dog was his lifeline." The visit also helped spur the man toward recovery.

"She's always doing a lot of extra things like that," Bernier said. "She can't be replaced. We're going to miss her."

Burcham said she's always enjoyed the work and helping the patients that come under her care. She said she's met many wonderful people that way, and still keeps in touch with some of them. It's not uncommon for them to come up to her at Wayne events and thank her, either.

"It's nice when somebody

comes up to you and gives you a hug and a thank you," Burcham said. "It touches you."

But, at 63, she said it was time to take a step back, get some additional rest and be lazy for a while. Her 4-year-old grandson now lives nearby, in Toledo, and Burcham said she expects to spend a lot more time with him, too.

Bernier said she hopes that Tooty won't be a stranger to the place where she spent the majority of her career, either. In fact, she's trying to persuade her not to be.

"We're trying to convince her to come back and volunteer," she said.

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Student winners named in art and essay contest

Students at South Middle School recently proved that diversity is what makes the world go round.

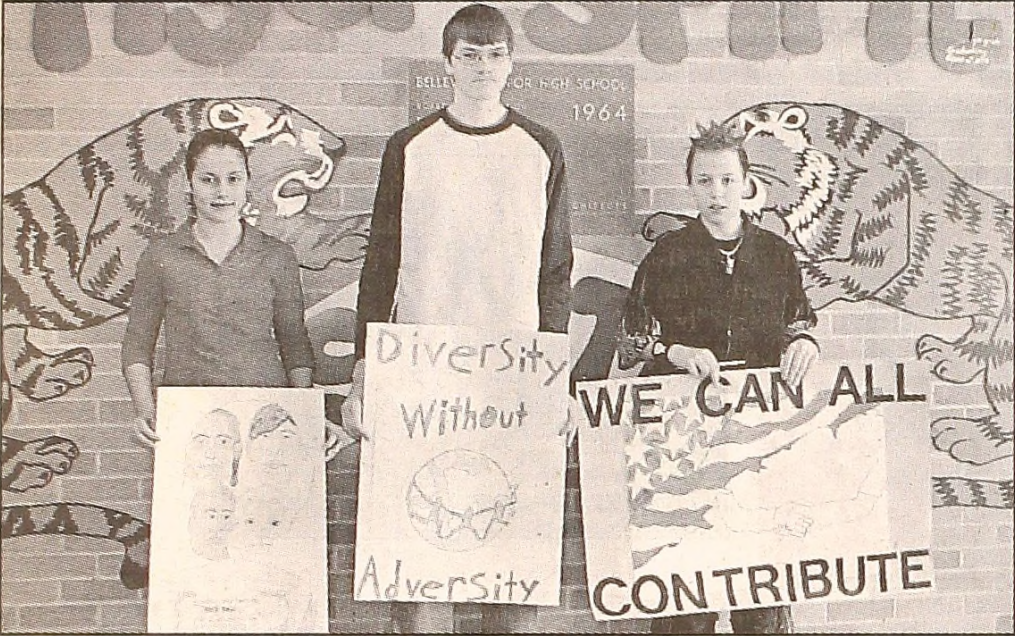
As part of Black History Month and the remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., South Middle School sponsored an essay and art contest themed “Diversity without Adversity.”

More than 60 students entered the yearly contest, according to principal Bill Houston.

“This is an important opportunity to celebrate national holidays and the ideas of diversity. We should respect all individuals for their differences,” he said. “We live

beneath one sun, on one planet and under one roof, so we must treat each other with respect and not in any manner make negative comments in regard to another person’s gender, ethnic, religious, or racial background or differences. I want students to remember this while at school, on the bus, at home and in our community.”

This year, five students were awarded a cash prize and a certificate for their entry. The art winners were 7th grader Victoria Keeton, 8th grader Tim Armstrong and 7th grader Justin Schenk. The essay winners include 6th grader Ryan Fitzpatrick and 7th grader Mathew Phillips.



Victoria Keeton, Tim Armstrong and Justin Schenk show their winning art entries.

THE CITY OF ROMULUS REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking proposals from qualified contractors for the following projects and service/s.

Bid 04/05-24 2005 Merriman Road Enhancement - City Project

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Bid 04/05-25 Merriman Road Enhancement - MDOT Project

Landscaping along Merriman Road Right-of way between I94 & Ecorse Road on either side of the road and in the median. Work to be performed includes planting of trees, shrubs, ground cover, flowers & sodded lawn.. Funds from the Federal Highway Transportation program will partially fund this project. As a result contractors are required to comply with Federal Labor Standard Provisions, Equal Opportunity Requirements and Davis-Bacon Wage Requirements.

Bid 04/05-26 Merriman Road Landscape Maintenance Contract

Contractual Services Contract for the maintenance of the landscape improvements to be located along the Merriman Road Right-of-way and median from I-94 to the intersection of Ecorse Road.

Qualified firms wishing to submit bids can obtain forms on or after February 25, 2005 upon deposit of a \$20.00, which is non-refundable, from:

Grissim Metz Andriese Associates, Inc.
300 E. Cady St.
Northville, MI 48167

Please call (248) 347-7010 before picking up plans and specifications or with questions concerning the scope or general outline of each of the bids.

Proposals must be on forms furnished by Landscape Architect and be accompanied by Bid Bond or Certified Check equaling five (5%) percent of the proposal submitted.

Submit proposals in sealed envelopes and return them to the City Clerk’s Office no later than 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 22, 2005. All bids will be publicly opened, and read aloud.

PROPOSAL ENVELOPES MUST BE SEALED AND CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE BID NUMBER AND NAME AND BE ADDRESSED TO:

CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK’S OFFICE
BID NAME & # _____
11111 Wayne Road,
Romulus, Michigan, 48174

The City of Romulus reserves right to reject any or all Bids, in whole or in part, and to waive any informalities therein, in accordance with MDOT 2003 Standard Specifications.

Publish: March 10, 2005

Response from the winners was unanimously positive:

“I thought he (Martin Luther King) would be an important person to draw,” said Keeton, age 13. “He did a lot for all cultures to make them equal.”

“He brought people together and united them,” said Fitzpatrick, who wrote his

essay on Martin Luther King.

“Diversity is the main emphasis,” said Phillips, who won for his essay on Australian Aborigines.

Winning essays and pictures are now on display at the Van Buren Public Schools administration building, located at 555 West Columbia in Belleville.

CITY OF ROMULUS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING GRANT APPLICATION TO FUND THE EXPANSION OF THE ROMULUS HISTORICAL PARK

Notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus will hold a public hearing at 6:45 pm on Monday, March 28, 2005, for the purpose of considering a proposed grant application to fund the expansion of the Romulus Historical Park from Goddard Road west of Moore St. to Bibbins Street. The public hearing will be held at the City of Romulus Council chambers at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174.

The proposed development includes a paved parking area; a barrier-free accessible path through the site; one covered 40’x 80’ covered shelter as a focal point for events such as parades, festivals, concerts and a farmer’s market; picnic areas; landscaping and entryway features.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide the general public with the opportunity to make any comments or recommendations regarding the proposed grant application to fund the proposed expansion of the Romulus Historical Park. A copy of the proposed grant application may be reviewed at the City Clerk’s office or the Economic Development Department during the regular business hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174.

An application for funding the development will be undertaken with the local matching funds provided by the Romulus Downtown Development Authority in an amount up to \$275,000. if the grant is awarded.

This application will be submitted to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources by the deadline of April 1, 2005.

Maria Lambert
DDA Director

Publish: March 10, 2005

CITY OF ROMULUS Downtown Development Authority Request for Qualifications

The City of Romulus is proud to announce a Request for Qualifications (“RFQ”) to select a developer for a 1.47-acre property. The City-owned development site (“the site”) is one parcel located on Goddard Road directly adjoining the intersection of two railroad lines near Downtown Romulus. The city views this site as an opportunity to implement the vision established in the City’s recently adopted Master Plan and seeks to initiate this exciting project. The site is an ideal setting for quality development as it is located along a major roadway with easy and convenient access to regional highways and is in a prime location to create a dramatic entry point into Downtown Romulus.

This RFQ specifically addresses redevelopment of the site as a high-density residential project to supply needed residents within walking distance to the downtown to help provide the needed synergy to create a successful downtown. The site is a Brownfield and will require some level of remediation. The City is committed to the successful redevelopment of this site and will assist in the necessary steps to secure clean up and financing for the project.

The Preferred Developer will have impressive experience in downtown redevelopment, mixed-use development, and Brownfield redevelopment. The city also seeks a developer that will assist in developing innovative solutions for this site. Preliminary concepts considered by the City involve a mixture of uses including first floor of office or retail with upper story residential; live/work units; or strictly high-density residential homes.

The Preferred Developer will incorporate good planning principles including pedestrian orientation, high-quality and traditional design, will embrace the history and heritage of the City of Romulus, and contain components to create a memorable gateway into Downtown Romulus.

This opportunity is part of the City’s effort to revitalize Downtown Romulus and create a focal point for the community. As the City continues to make progress on revitalizing its Downtown, this site will be a benchmark for that success.

Interested development teams should provide an RFQ Submission that documents the team’s interest in the project. Submission details may be attained from the Planning and Economic Development Department of the City of Romulus, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174, through Friday, February 25, 2005.

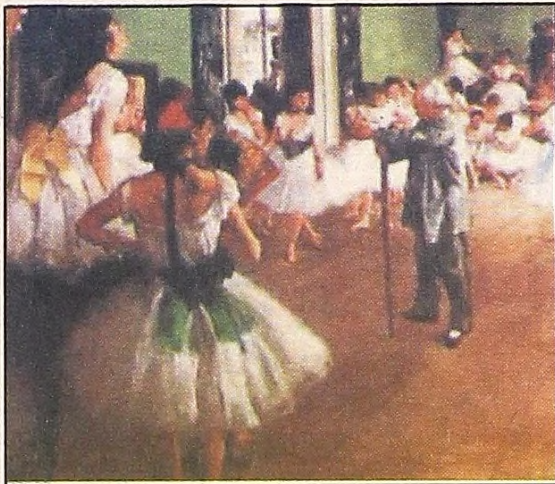
If you have any questions, please call Maria Lambert, DDA Director, at (734) 955-4533.

***NOTE: THE SUBMISSION DATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 2005 BY 2:00 PM.

Publish: March 10, 2005

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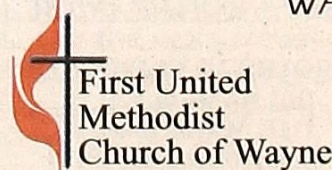
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Girlstown receives grant

The Girlstown Foundation in Belleville will soon put their grant money to work on a new program, thanks to the Junior League and the Sojourner Foundations of Detroit.

Elaine Carter, director of funds and development, said the program—Project You-Wise: Young Women’s Initiative for Self-Sufficiency and Empowerment—is a new year-long project in conjunction with the Supervised Independent Program at Girlstown. Each month it will give the clients an opportunity to be involved in intensive workshops to strengthen their role as the head of the household. There are 12 workshops planned, on topics like finances, home and car ownership, career preparation, health maintenance, nutrition, crisis management and leisure time activities.

Speakers will come from a variety of

professions, including some from the Belleville area, Carter said.

“It will benefit by increasing the knowledge regarding areas of needs to support them when they live independently from parents and family,” she said. “We hope it will create a stronger network between girls in the program and the professionals in the workshops.”

The community assistance award of \$525 from the Junior League and the \$3,000 grant from the Sojourner Foundation was awarded Feb. 24, but will be presented to Girlstown later this month at a women’s history month event.

Carter said the funds will help pay for a video recorder that will be used to create a tape library of the workshops and to train the client participants. They will also support the honorariums, printing costs, transportation and other project needs.

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD FEBRUARY 14, 2005 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear.
Present: LeRoy Burcroff, William Crova, Randolph Gear, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth.
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R Choate, CMC, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Romak, supported by Crova to approve the agenda amended.
Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-052

2. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Miller to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held February 7, 2005 as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

3A1. No Action Taken.

05-053

3A2. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to proceed with construction and to confirm, certify and direct Julie Albert, City Assessor, to prepare an assessment roll for the proposed special assessment for street lighting in the Avalon Meadows Subdivision at \$47.55 yearly energy cost to each Lot Owner, (estimated as of today’s date), the cost for installation of street lighting will be borne by the developer.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. -
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-054

3A2. Motion by Prybyla supported by Wadsworth according to Chapter XI, Article 1, Section 31-5 to direct Julie Albert, City Assessor to prepare an Assessment Roll for the proposed special lighting assessment district (Ponds) at Gateway to determine the proportionate benefits derived by each of the parcels affected and the proportionate benefit to be derived.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-055

4A1. Motion by Romak, supported by Wadsworth to adopt a resolution congratulating Bishop Dr. Lovell Wooden, Sr. and Mother Earsie Wooden, Co-Pastor, during their 42nd Pastoral Anniversary.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crova to accept the Chairman’s Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-056

5A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Prybyla to introduce Amendment 04/05-13.

FUND/DEPT. ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
General Fund				
Revenue				
101-2110-521.68-31	Reimbursable-Engrg.Fees	0	20,400	20,400
Expense				
101-2110-721.77-39	Contractual Svc-Engrg Fees	0	20,400	20,400

To appropriate funds for subdivision and condominium engineering fees that have recently been charged back to the City by Wayne county and will be billed to the contractor.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-057

5B. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Miller to introduce Budget Amendment 04/05-14:

FUND/DEPT. ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
General Fund				
Expenditures				
101-3110-731.74-90	302 Police Training Grant	12,075	14,442	26,517
Fund Balance		AVAILABLE	APPROPRIATE	BALANCE
101-0000-302-10-04	Reserve Training Grant	14,442	(14,442)	0

Transfer legally reserved monies to current expenditure budget for additional training needs.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-058

5C. Motion by Crova, supported by Wadsworth to approve the 2005/2006 CDBG proposed projects as recommended by Maria Lambert, DDA Director/CDBG Coordinator.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

5D. **Deleted**

05-059

6A1. Motion by Miller, supported by Wadsworth to approve second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendments 04/05-11 and 04/05-12, introduced at the meeting held February 14, 2005.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-060

9. Motion by Romak, supported by Miller to send correspondence to Senator Raymond Basham and Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood, assisting in raising the minimum wage rate from \$5.15 to \$7.15 per hour to be phased in over a two year period.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-061

11. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to authorize the Treasurer of the City of Romulus to disburse funds as listed in Warrant 05-03 in the total amount of Seven Hundred Forty Eight Thousand, Eight Hundred Fifty Three Dollars and Ninety Four Cents (748,853.94).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Abstain - Crova.
Motion Carried.

11. Motion by Crova, supported by Romak to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held February 14, 2005.

Linda R. Choate
City Clerk

Publish: March 10, 2005

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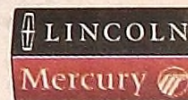
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SPORTS

Eagles knock out Tigers in district finale

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

There's never a dull moment when you match the Belleville Tigers up with the Romulus Eagles, especially when there's district championship hardware on the line.

Belleville has knocked Romulus out of the district tour-

nament in the semi-finals the last two years. However, Romulus penned a different ending to the storied rivalry when they defeated the Tigers, 76-71, in the championship game Friday night.

It was the first time since 2000 that Romulus won the district.

"We got a big monkey off of our back," said Romulus Coach Nate Oats. "It's the first time since I've been here that we won a district. It's been since 2000 that we won a district - it's a big deal."

Romulus appeared to be in good shape when they were up 10 points, 71-61, with only 48 seconds left to play. But this was Belleville they were playing. Belleville mounted a 10-1 run and was down only one, 72-71, with 9.2 seconds on the clock.

How'd they get there?

After Romulus' senior guard/forward slam-dunked to

make it a 71-61 game, Belleville's junior forward Tommie Clark hit a double followed by a triple from senior guard Anre Partee and a double from junior forward Leon Freeman off of turnovers.

Romulus' freshman guard Dominique Buckley went 1-for-2 from the line. It was then a four-point game, 72-68.

With 16 seconds left, Romulus received an untimely technical foul for having too many players on the court. Jarret Smith checked in after an injury but



The Romulus Eagles show off their Class A district championship trophy after they defeated the Belleville Tigers, 76-71, on Friday night in Romulus.

didn't tell the guy he was going in for and the Eagles were served the penalty.

The foul sent senior guard Josh Samarco, who was a perfect 4-for-4 from the line earlier in the game. He remained perfect and brought the Tigers to within two, 72-70. Then, with 9.2 seconds left, the game was in the hands of Partee, who played for Romulus

last year and was instrumental in Belleville's 59-55 conference championship victory against Romulus last week.

He was fouled while driving to the net but only managed to make one of the two freebies.

After Partee's attempts, Reese broke away from coverage and Smith lobbed the inbound pass to him. He was fouled and made

both of his shots to put his team up, 74-71. And senior forward Avery Stephenson followed suit with two from the line to put the game away.

Belleville may never have been in it if it weren't for the terrific play of Freeman who led all scorers with 25. He continuously

See Eagles, page 14

Dick Scott

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Scrappy Lions overcome Chiefs in final second

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Nobody thought that South Lyon would come in to the district tournament and take out the favored seat, Novi, in the semi-finals. But they did.

It appeared to set up a favorable match-up for the Canton Chiefs, who defeated Northville and Plymouth to make it to the finals against South Lyon on Friday. Who would have thought a team that was under .500 at the start of the tournament would beat a thriving Canton team?

Nobody. But they did. South Lyon knocked off the Chiefs, 45-44, in the Class A district championship game hosted by Northville High School.

It came down to the last second, when South Lyon's senior forward Brian Thomas tipped in the game winner. It was his only field goal of the game.

"They're a tough, scrappy team and they can shoot the ball well if you let them," said Canton Coach Charlie Paye. "We gave up too many points in the first quarter."

South Lyon jumped ahead early with a 20-13 first quarter. Paye and his team made some adjustments after the session and limited the Lions to 25 points the rest of the way.

Part of the strategy was to put

junior guard Rob Eppler on senior forward Austin McMullen, who scored a majority of his 17 points in the first quarter. Eppler managed to shut McMullen down, Paye said.

Canton cut the lead down to two in the second quarter. They held South Lyon to seven but kudos should be given to senior guard David Calille for hitting nine of the team's 12 points to keep them alive. The half ended, 27-25, in favor of the Lions.

Canton outscored them again in the third to take over the lead, 38-36.

"We did a nice job in the fourth quarter but we missed some free throws down the stretch," Paye said. "Calille, a guy you want on the line, missed the front end of a one-and-one."

With 2.2 seconds left and Canton up by one, senior center Kevin Thornton stepped up to challenge the ball-handler, who passed it off to a teammate that took a shot. Thomas tipped it in for the win.

Senior guard Andy Cortellini led the Chiefs with 16 and Calille finished with 14 for the night.

Canton 55, Plymouth 34

It was Northville's gym but the Canton Chiefs acted like they owned it when they took on Plymouth last Wednesday. Not only did Canton fans show up in throngs—faces painted and poms



Canton's Steve Paye battles Plymouth's Vernon Stewart for a rebound in their Class A district semi final last Wednesday. Canton won the game, 55-34, but went on to lose the championship game to South Lyon on Friday night.

waving—but the basketball team blew out the Wildcats, 55-34, in the semi-final game.

Canton took an early 8-0 lead but Plymouth bounced back and scored nine unanswered points to take the lead.

The Chiefs regained control with a pair of triples from

Cortellini and Calille, which put the team up 15-10 at the end of the period. Canton never lost control again and raced to a 28-18 first-half lead and boosted it to a 44-29 advantage after three.

Calille led the effort with 18, which included four triples, and Cortellini finished with 12.

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Vikings fall to DePorres, 71-48

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The ice and snow outside of Inkster High School didn't stop the Vikings from heating things up last Tuesday night in their opening round of Class C district tournament.

Freshman forwards Alphonso Lewis and Renty Rollins blazed the trail for the Vikings' lopsided 81-55 victory. Lewis burned Southfield Christian for 24 points to lead the Vikings and Rollins added 12 in the efforts.

It was virtually a game of runs in the first half. Southfield surprised the audience with the first two baskets off of Inkster turnovers. Sophomore Alan Bussey hit for a double and sophomore Steve Lewis hit a triple to give the Eagles a 5-0 lead.

Rollins marked the first points for Inkster, but Southfield's freshman Tim Bergsma answered with a triple making it an 8-2 game. But then it was Alphonso Lewis' turn. He hit three consecutive triples to knot the score at 11. His second and third three-pointers started Inkster on an 11-2 run the rest of the way.

Rollins followed with a deuce to give Inkster their first lead, 13-11, with about 2:55 left in the first period. Then sophomore guard Anre Goree nailed a triple and a freebie and Lewis hit for two. Southfield's Steve Lewis put an end to the run and the quarter when he hit a triple.

The first ended with Inkster in the lead, 19-16.

Five Inkster players combined for 20 points in the second round led by Lewis, who hit for eight including two more triples. Junior forward Jonathon Brown, sophomore guard DeMarko Williams, Anre Goree and Lewis combined to take the Vikings on a 13-0. Senior forward Pierre Goree also added two in the period. That session ended with the Vikings in charge, 39-27.

Last week, Inkster Coach Gerald Paschal preached that the team needed to spread the ball around and they did, especially in the third where they had eight different players score in the 25-point frame. They took a 20-point lead, 64-44, at the end of the third.

In the fourth Inkster's pressure and speed was too much for the Eagles to handle and they couldn't overcome the deficit.

Inkster outscored them, 17-11, in the final cut for the 81-55 triumph.

"They kept it close in the beginning," Paschal said of the Eagles. "We knew coming in that they could shoot and they did. But we really pressured them and wore them down. You could tell they were tired; their shots were barely making it to the rim."

Inkster 48, De Porres 71

The following night they had to face the heavily favored Detroit St. Martin De Porres. The Eagles got the best of the Vikings with a 71-48 victory.

It wasn't due to a lack of effort as the young Viking team executed their game plan to the tee, according to Paschal.

"People told me if you make them shoot from outside you have a chance to beat them," he said. "We did that. We pushed the ball to the outside and forced them to take shots...and they shot the lights out. I thought we played great defense; they just made the shots."

The Eagles hit 55 percent of their shots, according to Paschal.

The Vikings were in it to start. They only trailed by four, 18-14, after the first eight minutes of



Viking Johnny Crawford makes an easy lay up against Southfield Christian High School last Tuesday. Inkster won the Class C district opener, 81-55. But they fell to De Porres in round two.

play. De Porres kicked up their game in the second and held Inkster to just seven points in the second period of play. They hit for 18 and led 36-21 at halftime.

Inkster came out of the locker room and actually outscored the Eagles, 16-14, in the third but DePorres still led by 13.

DePorres finished off the Vikings with a 21-11 fourth quarter.

Senior Lionel Sullivan led De Porres with 19 and sophomore Durrell Summers chipped in 18.

Inkster senior Jairocy Simpson led all scorers with 20 and freshman Alphonso Lewis added nine in the efforts.

PUBLIC NOTICE MARCH 10, 2005

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Region 5 office, plans to issue an injection well permit. This is your chance to send written comments on this proposed Class III solution mining area permit.

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires us to regulate underground injection of fluids through wells to protect the quality of underground sources of drinking water. This is done in part by issuing permits to owners/operators of underground injection wells. The regulations governing underground injection wells are at Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 C.F.R.) Parts 144 and 146. The procedure for the permit process is at 40 C.F.R. § 124.5. More information about our program is on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/15water/uic/uic/htm>.

FACTS

Sunoco Partners Marketing & Terminals L.P. of Taylor, Michigan, has applied to the USEPA for permit to operate four existing wells. This will be for injection of fresh water into a rock formation 1150 ft to 1800 ft below the ground surface, facilitating the enlargement of existing salt caverns for hydrocarbon storage in Wayne County, Michigan.

LOCATION: The W/2 of NE/4 & SW/4 & NW/4 of the NW/4 of the NW/4 of Section 7, Township 3 South, Range 10 East and the NE/4 & SE/4 of the NE/4 of the NE/4 of Section 12, Township 3 South, Range 9 East in Wayne County, Michigan. (See Map)

Wayne County: Sunoco Inkster Facility:
EPA Area Permit# MI-163-3G-A002,

(Well #4, MDNR Permit #20404)
(Well #5, MDNR Permit #21521)
(Well #7, MDNR Permit #26443)
(Well #9, MDNR Permit #29090)

Permit Writer: Roger Hall (312) 353-5228, or hall.roger@epa.gov via the internet.

You may see the draft permit at: **Henry Ford Centennial Library**, 16301 Michigan Avenue, Dearborn, Michigan;
Monday–Thursday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
The draft permit is also on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/r5water/uic/uic.htm>

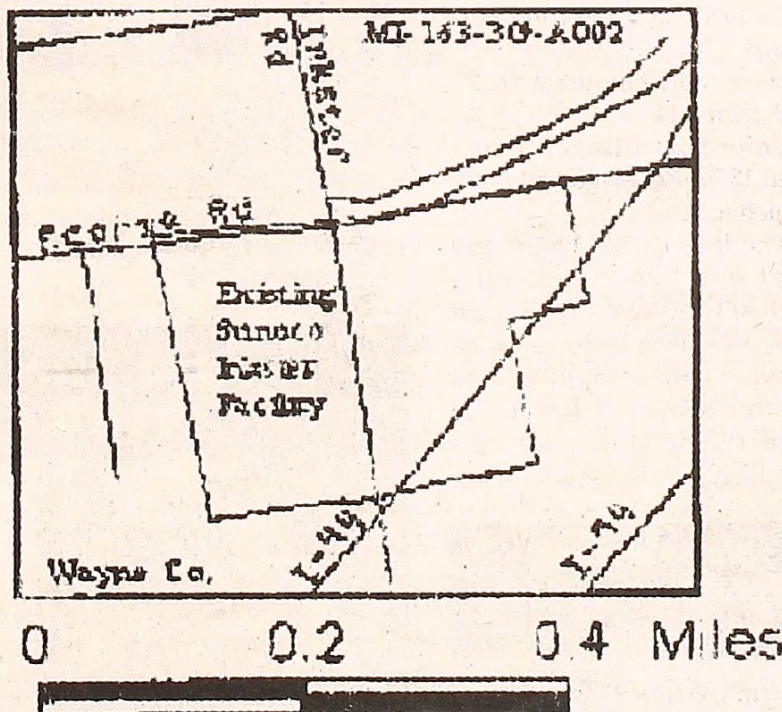
Send your written comments to the Permit Writer at the Internet address listed above, or to this address:

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
DI Section (Attn: Lisa Perenchio)
77 West Jackson Boulevard, (WU-16J)
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590**

We must receive your comments within 30 days after the date at the top of this notice. During the public comment period, you may request a public hearing in writing. You must state the issues you propose to raise at the hearing. If we receive many comments on this draft permit decision, we will hold a hearing, and publish a notice of the hearing at least 30 days before the hearing. If there is a hearing, you may make your comments then. We will consider all comments received and then issue a final permit decision.

If you wish to visit the Region 5 office, please call the Permit Writer first. The office is at the address listed above, and is open between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. You may view the administrative record, including all data submitted by Sunoco Partners Marketing & Terminals L.P. at the Region 5 office.

Publish: March 10, 2005



Pioneers oust Chiefs in hockey regionals

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Ann Arbor Pioneers cut the Canton Chief's hopes of a regional hockey championship short in a semi-final contest last week.

The Pioneers thumped them, 7-4, and put an end to an otherwise stellar season. Under first-year coach Mike Behen, the Chiefs boasted a team record of 15-7-3.

"That's about double from the previous season," he said. "That's good for the program. I would have liked to have won regionals for the kids' sake and for the program's sake."

"The kids did everything we wanted them to," he added. "They did the best they could."

Senior defenseman and co-captain Mike Kondratek started things for Canton early in the first frame of play. He knocked one into the Pioneers' net, which gave the Chiefs their only lead of the game at 1-0. Senior forward Bryan Wioncek and junior forward Brett Giacchino notched the assists on the play.

The advantage was short lived, though.

Ann Arbor fired back with three unanswered goals, two on power plays, in the same period. The barrage put Pioneer up, 3-1,

after one session of play.

The second didn't get any easier for the Chiefs. Ann Arbor knocked in two more for a dominating 5-1 lead. But senior Pat Davison proved that Canton still had some life left in them. He put one across the goal line to make it a 5-2 game. Senior forward and co-captain Reece McCabe and junior forward Kevin Tollison helped on the play.

Davison's goal spurred Canton on to two more in the third. Senior defenseman and co-captain Ben Laurin scored the first tally for a 5-3 game. Kondratek and senior forward Garret Hyman earned assists. Hyman knocked the second one in to cut Ann Arbor's lead to just one goal. McCabe and Davison each earned their second points of the game with assists.

Behen pulled his goalie with about 1:30 left to play and what appeared to be an icing call in Ann Arbor's end of the arena ended up leading to a goal for Pioneer, according to Behen.

"Everyone thought it was icing but the ref didn't blow the whistle," he said. "One of the Ann Arbor kids realized that there was no whistle, skated down and scored on a the empty net."

With Pioneer up, 6-4, Behen left his net empty to gain another shooter but Ann Arbor managed to

slide the puck in for a 7-4 victory.

Penalties and the loss of Kondratek to a misconduct penalty in the third were big factors in the game, too.

"We took so many penalties and, without Kondratek in the line up, we were in trouble," Behen said. "We kept shooting ourselves in the foot. Ann Arbor Pioneer has a good team and you can't shoot yourself in the foot against a team like that."

Behen literally took one for the team when he was hit in the face with the puck. The team was down 5-4 in the third when the incident happened but he continued to coach despite having a broken nose, some cracked teeth and needing 12 stitches.

"I was bleeding a lot," he said. "I was trying not to panic while keeping the kids calm and focused."

Senior goalie Tony Hylko remained focused the entire game he faced 38 shots and stopped 33 of them in the effort to keep his team alive.

Canton 5, Huron 4

The Chiefs made it out of the first round when they defeated Ann Arbor Huron, 5-4, last Tuesday.

Hylko wasn't just denying the opposing team goals he helped his team score some, too. He recorded

two assists in the third period to help his team in the victory.

They started with two quick goals. Wioncek, from Laurin and McCabe, opened things up. Then McCabe made it 2-0 with help from Wioncek and Hyman.

Huron scorched Canton for four unanswered goals to take the lead, 4-2.

But Canton answered back with three goals in the third to put the game away. Tollison hit the first one, which narrowed Huron's lead, 4-3. Hyman and Hylko were credited with the assists. Wioncek, from McCabe and Laurin, scored the equalizer on a power play attempt. Then Wioncek scored the game-winner with the assist going to Hylko.

The season may be over for the Chiefs, but Behen already has his eye on next year. Canton will lose 12 seniors to graduation this year but that doesn't worry him one bit.

"The future looks good," he said. "Time is what we have for next year. We can start preparing now for next season. That's something I couldn't do last year."

Behen wasn't hired until July and couldn't practice with the

team until August. But now he has all the time in the world, almost.

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2:00, 3:00, 3:30, 4:00, 5:00, 5:30, 6:05, 7:00,

7:30, 8:00, 9:00, 9:30, 10:00

FRU/SAT LS 11:00, 11:30, 12:00

THE JACKET (R)

(SAT/SUN 11:15) 4:20, 9:50

FRU/SAT LS 11:55

MAN OF THE HOUSE (PG-13)

3:05, 5:10, 7:15, 9:20

FRU/SAT LS 11:35

CURSED (PG-13)

(SAT/SUN 11:45) 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:45

FRU/SAT LS 11:50

DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN (PG-13)

(SAT/SUN 11:20) 1:50, 4:25, 6:55, 9:25

FRU/SAT LS 11:45

POOH'S HEFFALUMP MOVIE (G)

(SAT/SUN 11:05) 1:05

PHANTOM OF THE OPERA (PG-13)

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Eagles

FROM PAGE 1

kept the Tigers in it with big dunks and huge jumpers from 25 feet out.

"If Freeman wasn't as dang good as he was, we would have won by 15," Oats said. "He was unreal; he kept them in the game all night."

"Number one, was to stop Anre (Partee); number two, was to stop Freeman," he added. "Well...we did number one. Freeman's just a big-time performer."

Reese led Romulus with 17. Smith added 14.

Senior guard Isaac Kindell added 13 for Belleville and Clark chipped in 12.

"The kids worked hard and didn't quit," said Belleville Coach Mike Krogel. "They could have easily given up in the last 48 seconds but they didn't. We went 21-2 this season; we won the league title so at least we have something to show for it."



Romulus senior point guard Jerret Smith (right) battles against Belleville's senior point guard Anre Partee in Friday's district championship game.

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Road repair funding may be 'snowed under'

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

As the first day of spring draws near, the promise of warmer days and an end to the snow may have come none too soon for residents in the grip of spring fever. It certainly can't happen soon enough to suit Pat Hogan, director of the Wayne County Department of Public Service (DPS) Roads Division. However, he is not concerned about the start of baseball season or sending children outside to play—it's the road repair funds that shrink with each snowfall that worries him.

This year, Wayne County has experienced a much higher snowfall total than normal.

"The average quantity of snow is in the 40-42 inch range," he said. "In this area we've experienced about 55 inches of snow." All told, Hogan said that the number of snowstorms was about 20 percent higher than average.

As a result, the removal costs have increased, too. As county DPS crews had to be called in to operate snow plows and salt trucks at all hours of the day and night to keep the more than 1,900 miles of roads and highways under their jurisdiction as safe as possible. It is an operation that doesn't come cheap.

"We haven't seen the overtime numbers yet, but we suspect that we are over budget," said Hogan.

While the final figures are not yet available, he said that between the \$22 per ton cost for road salt and the costs associated with manpower and equipment use, snow

removal operations cost the county spends between \$60 and \$70 per ton of salt distributed. As of Friday, the department had spread about 130,000 tons of salt—and spent between \$780,000 and \$910,000. These anticipated charges—even at their lowest—hover dangerously close to the upper limit of the amount county officials expected to spend. On average, the department spends \$7-\$8 million dollars on snow removal each year.

The roads division has a set budget that it must follow each year, so when snow removal costs exceed what their expectations, then the funds must be reallocated from somewhere else—like road repair—to cover it, Hogan said.

"We anticipate that some time toward the end of winter we'll have to make some adjustments in the budget for the balance of the fiscal year," Hogan said. "Some things we had hoped to accomplish over the summer will probably have to be postponed."

If that happens, the projects most likely to be sacrificed would be road resurfacing. The department would take on as many projects as funding permits, but Hogan said that several factors—including present condition, traffic volume, and the cost of the project—would be used to determine which projects require immediate attention and which could be pushed back.

Hogan said that staff members would begin to analyze the various costs in the upcoming weeks to determine if cuts need to be made and, if so, where they should come from.

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1. Obituaries

SCHEFFER, Joseph G., age 40, of Linden, died while skiing in Cadillac. Services were held March 9, 2005 at Sharp Funeral Home, Fenton Chapel, Fenton. Joseph was born September 10, 1964 in Ypsilanti, the son of Marcus and Irene (Dunn) Scheffer. He graduated from New Boston Huron High School in 1982 and attended Henry Ford Community College. Joseph married Jennifer J. Butler in 1993 in Romulus where they resided until moving to Hartland. For the past two years they lived in Linden. He was employed by GM Powertrain (Willow Run-Hydromatic), was a member of the Linden Sportsman Club, and participated in the Men's Hockey League at Kensington Valley Ice House in Brighton. Joseph is survived by his wife Jennifer, 2 children, Joseph S. Scheffer and Jeena R. Scheffer, parents, Marcus and Irene Scheffer of Crossville, TN, mother and father-in-law, Richard

and Dee Butler of Linden, brother Mark and wife Karen Scheffer of Livonia, nephew Andrew Scheffer of Livonia, and several aunts, uncles and cousins. Memorial contributions for his children may be made to the Joseph G. Scheffer Family Fund in care of The State Bank of Fenton. Those desiring may share on-line condolences or post a tribute at www.sharpfuneralhomes.com

5. Personals

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1988 Ford PkUp
1FTCR14A0JPB95683

1992 Oldsmobile 4Dr
1G3WH54TXND324593

1991 Chevrolet 2Dr
1G1JC14G5M7270694

1995 Plymouth 2Dr
3PES67C1ST585924

1991 Toyota 4Dr
JT2EL43A3M0002414

1995 Ford 4Dr
1FALP52U0SG288365

1984 Oldsmobile 2Dr
1G3AR47A6EM384995

1996 Mitsubishi 4Dr
4A3AJ46G8TE319325
1987 Dodge StWgn
3B4GD12W6HM719785

1986 Ford 2Dr
1FABP46F4GH184805

1985 Cadillac 4Dr
1G6KS6981FE831245

1986 Volvo 4Dr
YV1AX8848G1185516

1987 Ford PkUp
1FTCF15Y0HLA24096

1991 Pontiac 2Dr
1G2JB14TXM7542846

1994 Pontiac 4Dr
1G2WJ52M2RF316826

1985 Dodge 2Dr
1B3BD21C5FG309076

1990 Pontiac 4Dr
1G2JB54K0L7605336

1986 Oldsmobile 4Dr
1G3AM19R3GD450356

1989 Toyota 2Dr
JT2ST67C6K7334216

1995 Mercury 4Dr
1MELM658SK654256

1992 Oldsmobile 4Dr
1G3CW53L8N4320147

1988 Chevrolet StWgn
1GNCM15Z0JB130887

1989 Plymouth 4Dr
1P3BK46D8KC465597

1991 Mercury 4Dr
1MEPM36X0MK631557

1998 Ford 4Dr
1FAPP10P3WW144548

1990 Ford 4Dr
1FACP53U5LG182848

1994 Dodge PkUp
1B7HC16Y0RS702558

1993 Pontiac 4Dr
1G2NE543XPC737678

1996 Chevrolet PkUp
1GCEK19M2TE245028

1987 Dodge PkUp
1B7GN14M9HS453388

1988 Dodge StWgn
2B4FK41K1JR681768

1988 Lincoln 4Dr
1LNB82F9JY801408

1993 Pontiac 2Dr
1G2WJ14T1PF230059

57. Antiques

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CITY OF WESTLAND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUC-
TION

On MARCH 15, 2005 the
Westland Police
Department will conduct
public auctions of
impounded abandoned
vehicles. The first auction
will begin promptly at
10:00am at Westland
Service Towing, 37501
Cherry Hill, Westland, MI,
County of Wayne, where
the following vehicles will
be offered for sale to the
highest bidder:

1993 Ford Aerostar
StWgn Green
1FMCA11U4PZC38534

1988 Plymouth Gr. Fury
4 Dr Lt Blue
1P3BB26P8JW119514

1991 Chevy Cavalier
2 Dr White
1G1JC14G5M7180011

1994 Chevy Cavalier
2 Dr Black
1G1JC14T8R7222384

1988 Buick LeSabre
4 Dr White
1G4HP54C8JH517903

1983 Lincoln Mark VI
2 Dr Black
1MRBP98F3DY684466

1991 Dodge Caravan
StWgn Black
1B4GK54R7MX585345

1992 Dodge Spirit
4 Dr Brown
1B3XA46K1NF175424

1992 Olds Cutlass
4 Dr White
1G3WH54TXND375480

1989 Olds Cutlass
2 Dr Gray
2G3AJ11W8K2435277

The second auction will
begin promptly at 10:30am
at T & G Towing, 33032
Ford Rd., Westland, MI,
County of Wayne, where
the following vehicles will
be offered for sale to the
highest bidder:

1993 Dodge Caravan

StWgn Blue
2B4GH45R0PR393212

The third auction will begin
promptly at 11:00am at
Westland Car Care, 6375
Hix Rd., Westland, MI,
County of Wayne, where
the following vehicles will
be offered for sale to the
highest bidder:

1985 Ford F-150
PkTrk Blue
2FTEF14Y5FCA89897

1988 Dodge K-Car
4 Dr Beige
1B3BD46D8JC119267

1995 Ford Contour
4 Dr Purple
3FALP67L2SM115023

1999 Ford Taurus
4 Dr Green
1FAPP53U3XG101879

1994 Dodge Caravan
StWgn Blue
2B4GH2531RR709509

1990 Dodge Caravan
StWgn Blue
1B4FK54R6LX209052

1993 Ford Escort
StWgn Green
1FAPP15J7PW381960

1992 Pontiac Gr. Prix
2 Dr Black
1G2WJ14T8NF214762

1995 Ford Taurus
4 Dr Gold
1FALP5340SG147200

The fourth auction will
begin promptly at 11:30am
at Bar Towing, 39025
Warren Rd., Westland, MI,
County of Wayne, where
the following vehicles will
be offered for sale to the
highest bidder:

1991 Ford Taurus
4 Dr Lt Blue
1FACP50UXMG101493

1990 Ford T-Bird
2 Dr White
1FAPP64R4LH169875
All vehicles are sold in "as
is" condition. Bidding on
all vehicles will start at the
amount due for towing and
storage. Vehicles may be

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deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

30 Day Notice of Auction
Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle listed below will be auctioned after APRIL 9, 2005 unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time:

1986 GMC Starcraft
StWgn Gray
1SAHC52F4G7A00056

60. Misc. Sales

72" Couch and chair & 1/2 with ottoman, Forest Green \$250
6 Piece Pine bedroom \$200

66. Landscape/Nurseries

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87. Rooms For Rent

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88. Duplexes For Rent

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89. Apartments For Rent

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1 Bedroom - Heat, Water & Appliances included - No Pets \$475 and up
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96. Houses For Rent

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105. Mobile Homes-Lots

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106. Houses For Sale

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115. Autos For Sale

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118. Freebies

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Time is short, but it's not too late to trim your 2004 tax bill. Here are some last-minute moves to consider and deductions you don't want to overlook.

- Maximize your 2004 IRA contribution. You have until April 15 to make deductible 2004 contributions. The maximum contribution is \$3,000 for 2004 (\$3,500 if you were 50 or older last year).

- If you changed jobs in 2004, make sure you didn't have excess social security taxes withheld. Claim credit for the excess on your Form 1040 if you paid over \$5,450.
- Look into itemizing deductions if you usually take the standard deduction. Search for allowable deductions that you might have overlooked, such as the new deduction for state and local sales taxes in lieu of deducting state and local income taxes.
- Medical deductions are allowable to the extent they exceed 7.5% of adjusted gross income (AGI). Don't forget items such as eyeglasses and hearing aids. You can deduct mileage and parking for medical appointments at 14¢ a mile. Parking and tolls are also deductible.

- Deduct miles driven for charitable work at 14¢ a mile unless you're reimbursed for your expenses. Parking and tolls are also deductible.
- Don't overlook tax preparation fees, safe deposit costs, and certain investment advice. They all qualify as miscellaneous deductions, subject to a 2% of AGI limit.
- Student loan interest is deductible whether you itemize or not.
- The deduction for qualified tuition and school expenses increased to \$4,000 for 2004. Qualifying amounts for you, your

spouse, and dependents may be deductible. Higher-income taxpayers might qualify for a deduction of up to \$2,000 for these education expenses.

- If you're a teacher or teacher's aide, you can deduct up to \$250 for classroom supplies that you purchased with your own money.
- If you purchased a hybrid gas-electric car in 2004, you may be able to deduct up to \$2,000 of the purchase price.

Call our office for details or tax filing assistance @ 734-455-1040.

Listen to Fred Grant's radio show "Inside Small Business" every weekend on or call Fred at 734-455-1040



Brian Mell, Financial Consultant
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Financially SPEAKING

Q - I'm already contributing to a 401(k). Why should I consider a Roth IRA as part of my retirement planning?

A - If you have a 401(k), make sure you contribute at least up to what your employer matches. Then consider that while money in a 401(k) grows tax deferred, it's subject to tax when you make a withdrawal, even at the age of 59 1/2. With a Roth IRA, your money grows tax-free, and you don't pay taxes on a qualified withdrawal. Also, your 401(k) limits you to the funds offered through your employer. With a Roth IRA, you're not tied to a specific fund family. Each option has a contribution limit and your personal situation will determine how much you can afford to contribute to either plan. We can help you decide among your options. All DFCU Financial Partners Financial Consultants through our broker-dealer CUSO Financial Services, L.P. (CFS) are Chartered Retirement Planning Counselors through the College of Financial Planning. They're located at each DFCU Financial branch and have the experience and all the necessary credentials to help you. For a complimentary consultation stop by or call us at 313.336.2700 or toll free at 888.336.2700 outside the local area. Or visit www.dfcufinancial.com.



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What Will Become of Your IRA's?

I recently met with a new client, Charles, who brought in files for nine IRA's that he had accumulated over the past 20 years. He wanted me to review and consolidate them into one, easily managed account. As I went through the files, I discovered that several accounts had different beneficiaries. Three named an ex-spouse, another his deceased father, and others included his children, some whom he removed from his will. His two most recent accounts specified his estate as the beneficiary.

Charles explained that whenever he opened up a new IRA, he would name whoever was closest to him at that time as the beneficiary. And when he couldn't think of anyone to name, the representative at the bank told him that naming the estate would be the best thing to do because his will would take care of everything. Charles was shocked when I explained what would actually happen to his IRA money when he died. And if you are in a similar position, you may be too.

First of all, your will or trust takes a backseat when it comes to IRA's. **The beneficiary-designation form is the ruling authority.** So if you've named an ex-spouse, a parent, or anyone that you may have even disinherited in your will, that's who'll receive your assets when you die.

The beauty of the IRA beneficiary-designation form is that it will allow assets to pass to your heirs without going through probate. And just like life insurance proceeds, all your beneficiaries usually have to do is present a death certificate, fill out new forms, and their check is in the mail. It doesn't get any easier! If your beneficiaries have predeceased you though, or you didn't name any at all, the assets become part of your estate. Your heirs will eventually get the money, but they might not be able to take advantage of the Final Regulations that were approved on April 17, 2002. These rules let the beneficiaries of the IRA's take smaller withdrawals, therefore stretch out tax payments longer than in the past. In fact, they can stretch the payments out for their lifetimes allowing the bulk of the account continued growth. A 42 year old inheriting a hypothetical \$300,000 IRA earning a hypothetical 6% annual rate of return would accumulate \$1.2 million.

We recommend that you consolidate your IRAs into one account (even 457 plans, 403b accounts, 401k accounts etc.) Then have one beneficiary-designation form naming the primary and contingent beneficiaries. Keep this form up to date if your desires change in the future or if any of the beneficiaries pass away.

If you would like more information, please call Curt at (734) 844-3400.



Curt Whipple
C. Curtis and Associates, Inc.

"I heard that wireless home networks are very very vulnerable to hackers and viruses."

Is it safe to have a wireless network in my home or at my

Great question. Wireless networks can be just as secure and run just as fast if not faster than wired networks to a certain extent.

They are cheap to deploy, easy to setup, and if you're not worried about broadcasting your wireless signal all over your neighborhood, wireless networks can be an out of the box solution in most cases. However, broadcasting your wireless signal sets you up to be the person or company we all see on the news as being investigated for the latest virus that was released and caused millions of dollars in damage. Is that extreme and the odds of it happening to you low, sure, but make no mistake in thinking it couldn't or doesn't happen. What is more common though is that your neighbor, whose machine is loaded with viruses and worms, is sharing you connection and infecting all machines on your network, costing you dollars and downtime.

Most wireless devices utilize WEP (Wireless Encryption Privacy) which offers 128 bit encryption.

This provides initial security via secure authentication, but there are ways around that. Tools available via the Internet allow some wireless systems to be cracked and used for illegitimate use such as free internet access or a potential attack on a different network launched from the host's network. I've seen compromised systems being used as application servers serving up everything from spam to illicit material and the owner be none the wiser until we came over and gave them a free consultation and discovered the issue. Because of such tools, broadcasting past the walls of your building or home is not recommended, and the only way to prevent this is by implementing a RADIUS encryption server. For a company this would be the best solution, but for a home owner it can be expensive but by following the below guidelines you are much less likely to be the victim.

Limit your wireless device to allow access by authorized MAC address only. Even though this still isn't 100% secure since misguided individuals can spoof MAC address, it's better than not doing it.

- Limit available amount of DHCP address to hand out. This will allow you to see if someone is attached to your network and give you the ability to react.
- Make sure you set up WEP and write the number down and put it in someplace safe! This is a must and should be made mandatory on all wireless devices.
- DO NOT BROADCAST YOUR SSID!!! If they have your SSID they half way own you.

To answer your question, yes they can be a safe but it takes a professional to make them safe secure and bulletproof.

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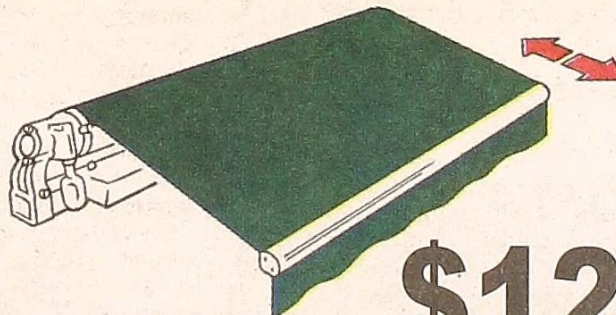
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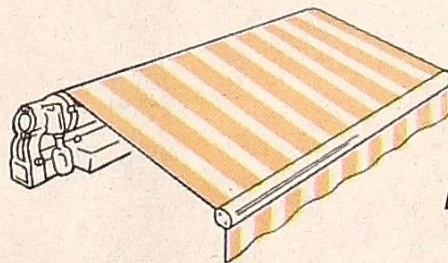
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